

RCPP approvals involving Iowa included;

National Level: Regional Grassland Bird and Grazing Lands Enhancement Initiative

Lead partner: Missouri Department of Conservation

The goal of this project, which includes portions of Kansas, Missouri, Iowa, and Nebraska, is to create and implement management strategies that provide for the adoption of scientifically proven and culturally acceptable pasture and grassland management practices. Conservation implementation will maintain the tall grass prairie ecosystem without the need for government regulation and enroll high- quality grasslands into conservation easements and contracts. The highly targeted approach identified in the proposal will strengthen existing partnerships and implementation plans.

CCA Level: Iowa Targeted Demonstration Watersheds Partnership Project

Lead partner: Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Division of Soil Conservation

Directly tied to the implementation of Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy, developed in response to the Gulf Hypoxia Task Force goal of 45 percent reduction in nutrients to the Gulf, this project will assist a strong, diverse partnership in standing up demonstration watersheds in nine focus watersheds, identified by a coordinating council. Conservation in these watersheds will focus on broad adoption of practices that are most beneficial in reducing nutrients and will serve as models for future work, with a focus on farmer-to-farmer outreach and education. Nearly 70 partners have signed off on this project.

State Level: Iowa - Middle Cedar Partnership Project

Lead partner: City of Cedar Rapids

Led by the City of Cedar Rapids, the Middle Cedar Partnership Project will focus on working with local conservation partners, farmers and landowners to install best management practices such as cover crops, nutrient management, wetlands and saturated buffers to help improve water quality, water quantity and soil health in the Cedar River Watershed. There is an urgent need to address increasing concentrations of nitrates and extreme flood events in the Cedar River. This project will lay the foundation for needed improvements and bring together a diverse group of conservation partners.

FY 2014/2015 Regional Conservation Partnership Program Project Slate for Iowa by Funding Pool

Project Name	Participating States	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	Offer
Mississippi River Basin				
Iowa Targeted Demonstration Watershed Partnership Project	Iowa	Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship	20	\$3,500,000

Project Name	Participating States	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	Offer
National Funding Pool				
Regional Grassland Bird and Grazing Lands Enhancement Initiative	Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa	The Missouri Department of Conservation	15	\$5,000,000

Project Name	Participating States	Lead Partner	Number of Partners	Offer
State Funding Pool				
Middle Cedar Partnership Project	Iowa	City of Cedar Rapids	10	\$2,100,000